

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

OLL 85-0768

7 MAR 1985

Mr. Bernard Raimo
Associate Counsel
Permanent Select Committee
on Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Bernie:

I am writing to you in response to the concerns you raised with my staff regarding the delay in responding to Congressman Mazzoli's letter of 14 September to the Director of Personnel. In the letter, Congressman Mazzoli submitted questions for the record relating to H.R. 5805, a bill to provide benefits to certain former spouses of CIA personnel.

I certainly understand and sympathize with your frustration at not receiving a timely answer to these important questions. You should be aware, however, that your request has not been ignored by this Agency. Due to an inadvertent error, this office did not receive a copy of the letter or know of its existence for several months and, consequently, we were not in a position to take action on the letter. After being apprised of the letter in early to mid-December, my staff immediately formulated answers to the questions and coordinated those answers with other components within the Agency. We also held extensive discussions with OMB over a period of several weeks on this matter.

On 7 February we transmitted our proposed answers to OMB and requested rapid Administration clearance. Since our proposed response reflected the prior discussions we had with OMB on this matter, we believed, at the time, that Administration clearance would be immediately forthcoming. Since that time we have made several inquiries regarding the status of our proposed response, the latest of which was made on 6 March. We were informed that Administration action would be forthcoming in the "near future."

You can be assured that the Agency will raise this matter again with appropriate officials within the Administration if no action is taken in the near future.

Sincerely,

/s/Charles A. Briggs

~~/s/Charles A. Briggs~~

Charles A. Briggs
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

cc: Mr. James Frey
Office of Management and Budget

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